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MAT-8861US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To be assigned
Applicants: S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: REFRIGERATOR
TC/A.U.:
Examiner:
Confirmation No.:
Docket No.: MAT-8861US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and /08b submitted herewith. Copies of the references listed are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English language:

- 1) JP 1999-159941
- 2) JP 61-106785
- 3) JP 10-073362
- 4) JP 08-189752
- 5) JP 2003-287334
- 6) JP 2001-255048
- 7) JP 07-167547

References 1) to 7) include English language abstracts and/or a partial English translation.

References 6) and 7) are not in the English language, but a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a)(3) is set forth in the background portion of the above specification on pages 1 and 2.

References 1) to 5) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of this search report, which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office, is transmitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,
RatnerPrestia

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/bj

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and 08b
7 References
Search Report

Dated: July 6, 2006

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(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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Dennis McDermott

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	To be assigned
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
SHEET 1 of 2		Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8861US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US-		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		JP 1999-159941 (w/English Abstract)	06-15-1999	SHARP CORP.
		JP 61-106785 (w/ partial English translation)	07-07-1986	SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.
		JP 10-073362 (w/English Abstract)	03-17-1998	SHARP CORP.
		JP 08-189752 (w/English Abstract)	07-23-1996	MATSUSHITA REFRIG. CO., LTD.
		JP 2003-287334 (w/English Abstract)	10-10-2003	TOSHIBA CORP
		JP 2001-255048 (w/English Abstract)	09-21-2001	HITACHI LTD.
		JP 07-167547 (w/English Abstract)	07-04-1995	SHARP CORP.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

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²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

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The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	To be assigned 10/2003
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8861US

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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